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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 19, 1975

Congressman Henry A. Waxman (D-Los Angeles) announced that he successfully put through an amendment to the Clean Air Act that would make clear that California could decide for itself to eliminate smog devices on older cars.

The California legislature acted earlier this year to ban vehicle retrofits, which have been extremely unpopular.

After passage of his amendment, Mr. Waxman said, "These devices are not effective and are costly to install. People overwhelmingly oppose the burden of installing devices that won't clean up the air.

"At the same time, I am pressing for tough standards for new automobiles so that the responsibility for eliminating smog from autos is placed squarely on the Detroit auto manufacturers.

"The people of California made it clear to the state legislature that they felt the retrofit idea didn't make sense. For a middle income person to install a device that adversely affects the operation of his car and does no substantial good to clean up the air is unfair."

The Waxman amendment would make it clear under federal law that California could eliminate retrofits.